

The Honourable Mr. Abbott, President of the Queen's Privy Council for Canada, presented to the House,—The Preliminary Abstract of the business of Canadian Life Insurance Companies for the year ending 31st December, 1891.

Ordered, That the same do lie on the Table, and it is as follows :—

(*Vide Sessional Papers, No. 4a.*)

Pursuant to the Order of the Day, the House resumed the adjourned Debate on the Honourable Mr. Landry's motion, viz. :—

That the following Address be presented to His Excellency the Governor General, to offer the respectful thanks of this House to His Excellency for the gracious Speech he has been pleased to make to both Houses of Parliament, namely :—

To HIS EXCELLENCY the Right Honourable Sir FREDERICK ARTHUR STANLEY, Baron Stanley of Preston, in the County of Lancaster, in the Peerage of the United Kingdom, Knight Grand Cross of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath, Governor General of Canada.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY :—

We, Her Majesty's dutiful and loyal subjects, the Senate of Canada in Parliament assembled, humbly thank Your Excellency for your gracious Speech at the opening of this Session.

We also respectfully thank Your Excellency for your expression of gratification at meeting us at the commencement of the Parliamentary Session, and we rejoice that Your Excellency is able to congratulate us upon the general prosperity of the Dominion, and upon the abundant harvest with which Providence has blessed all parts of the country.

We share in the most heartfelt manner the feeling of profound sorrow which the lamented and untimed death of His Royal Highness the Duke of Clarence and Avondale has aroused, and we feel most sincerely the same sympathy with Her Majesty and Their Royal Highnesses the Prince and Princess of Wales, in their bereavement, which has prevailed in the Dominion on this melancholy occasion and has found expression in respectful messages of condolence from Your Excellency's Ministers, from the Provincial Governments, and from many other representative bodies.

We thank Your Excellency for informing us that the negotiations with respect to seal fishing in Behring Sea have been continued, with a view to the adjustment by arbitration of the difficulties which have arisen between Her Majesty's Government and that of the United States on that subject. We are pleased to learn that Commissioners have been appointed by both Governments, to investigate the circumstances of seal life in Behring Sea ; to report thereon ; and to suggest the measures, if any, which they may deem necessary for its proper protection and preservation. We are glad to be informed that the Commissioners are proceeding with their deliberations in Washington, and that the results will shortly be communicated to Her Majesty's Government. We trust that their investigations, and the determination of the arbitrators who are to be appointed, may lead to a just and equitable settlement of this long-pending difficulty.

We receive with a deep sense of its importance, Your Excellency's announcement that though the meeting which had been arranged with the United States Government for a day in October last, for an informal discussion on the extension of trade between the two countries, and on other international matters requiring adjustment, was postponed at their request, yet, that, in compliance with a more recent intimation from that Government, three of Your Excellency's Ministers proceeded to Washington, and conferred with representatives of the Administration of the United States on those subjects. We are glad to learn that an amicable understanding was arrived at respecting the steps to be taken for the establishment of the boundary of Alaska, and for reciprocity of services in cases of wreck and salvage. We are gratified to know that arrangements were also reached for the appointment